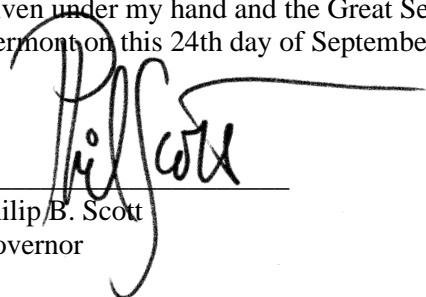


State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation


- WHEREAS,** Vermont has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that dates back further than the state itself and carries forward to this day; and
- WHEREAS,** hunting and angling continue to be an integral component of the cultural fabric of communities throughout the state, and over the past year have offered a growing number of participants an opportunity to connect with nature on a personal level while simultaneously providing food security, a sense of self-sufficiency, and both mental and physical health benefits; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont's sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitat, and through their license fees helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and
- WHEREAS,** upon realizing license fees alone were insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, sportsmen and women supported self-imposed excise taxes on firearms and ammunition, fishing tackle and motorboat fuels to raise additional conservation funds; and
- WHEREAS,** to this day, the Fish and Wildlife Department is primarily funded by sportsmen and women through this American System of Conservation Funding – a “user pays – public benefits” approach that is widely recognized as the most successful model for funding fish and wildlife management in the world; and
- WHEREAS,** last year alone, Vermont's sportsmen and women generated \$14.76 million through this System to support the conservation efforts of the Fish and Wildlife Department; and
- WHEREAS,** 254,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy through spending more than \$442 million while engaged in their pursuits; and
- WHEREAS,** this spending supports over 6,814 jobs in Vermont and generates \$50 million in state and local taxes; and
- WHEREAS,** National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim September 25, 2021 as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 24th day of September, A.D. 2021.


Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs